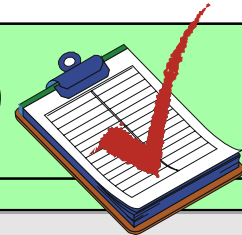


CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

Sept. 18, 2000

NEWS BRIEFS

OPEN ENROLLMENT

Information on open enrollment was distributed with paychecks last week. The deadline to turn in forms is Oct. 6. KET will air programs on open enrollment on these dates: Sept. 21, 10:30 p.m. EST; Sept. 30, noon and 5:30 p.m.; Oct. 1, noon.



TIP OF
THE
WEEK

Sitting too long, whether it's at your desk or driving for long periods of time, can shorten and tighten your hamstrings and the muscles in the front of your hips. This can make your back hurt. When you stand these muscles tug on the ligaments around your pelvis, which can alter the natural curve of your low back. Hence, placing more stress and irritation on the soft tissues, joints, and nerves of the lower back. You can protect yourself by keeping your hamstrings and hip flexors loose by standing and moving around every hour. It is also advised that you stretch your legs under your desk at least every hour.

Red Cross Blood Drive This Week; Prizes Offered To Donors

CHS and CFC employees who donate blood this week will have a chance to win some prizes.

The Red Cross Blood drive is Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Health Services Auditorium.


Donors will have a chance to win T-shirts, insulated water bottles, travel mugs and gift certificates to Applebee's.

Flyers will be placed on windshields of cars this week. The flyer

will be a testimonial from the father of a young man injured in Franklin County last year in a

boating accident. The man used in excess of 100 units of blood.

All CHS and CFC recruiters are doing a wonderful job signing up donors, but we still need more if we are to reach our goal of 200

donors. Please consider giving blood. For more information, call Evelyn Mills at 564-2781, ext. 3907. 




New Employee Performance Evaluation Plan In Works For Next Year

As a result of the passage of House Bill 763 during the 2000 session of the General Assembly, a new performance evaluation system will go into effect for classified employees, beginning Jan. 1, 2001.

The new law for the system is contained in KRS 18A.110, Section 1, Subsection 1(i) and 7(J). This law requires the Personnel Cabinet to develop administrative regulations to cover the details of the system.

In order to implement the new system, the Personnel Cabinet will hold "Train the Trainer" workshops

in October. (Dates to be announced later.) These workshops will provide agency trainers the information and skills to prepare them to train supervisors on the new system.

Training of supervisors on the new evaluation process will become a legal requirement under the administrative regulations that cover the system. Such training is critical to enhance understanding of the system, to emphasize the importance of using it as a management tool, and to assist supervisors in developing the proper skills to use the system effectively. 

Gov. Patton Celebrates Legislative Successes

Gov. Paul Patton and First Lady Judi Patton hosted over 250 advocates for mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services at an event to celebrate the successes of the 2000 General Assembly in addressing these critical areas.

The recent event was sponsored by CHS's Department for Mental Health & Mental Retardation Services, Kentucky Mental Health Coalition and Partners for Parity.

Gov. Patton related his experience of visiting a state facility.

"My experience at the hospital that day reminded me that we create disability by our

constant focus on what makes us different. The day we begin to understand mental disability as simply another part of the human condition, not to be judged but to be accepted, on that day the stigma of mental illness and mental retardation will be no more," Gov. Patton said.

The legislation included parity in insurance coverage for mental health and substance services. Kentucky is the 30th state in the nation to pass mental health parity and the 5th state to pass substance abuse parity. Other milestones included a bill developing a 10-

year plan for the improved delivery of mental health and substance abuse services and legislation to improve the delivery of services and supports to persons with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities.

More than \$50 million was funded by the General Assembly for this biennium for expanded community-based mental retardation services.

Kentucky was ranked 50th in the nation in spending for community based services for individuals with mental retardation.

Mrs. Patton also spoke about tying the impact

of victimization to the importance of accessible mental health care.

To highlight the Pattons' support of adequate mental health care and the needs of women, the governor signed an executive order creating the Office of Women's Physical and Mental Health.

Audrey Haynes, a native Kentuckian representing Tipper Gore, praised the governor and those in attendance for their accomplishment. Haynes also headed the Office for Women at the White House before becoming Chief of Staff to Mrs. Gore.



Mrs. Patton, Gov. Patton and CHS Secretary Jimmy Helton

Employee Recognition Week: Food, Fun and More Food

Employee Recognition Week includes calories.

Last week, employees in various sections enjoyed breakfast, lunch, pot luck lunch, snacks, pizza parties, ice cream socials and other opportunities as part of a "thank you" campaign for cabinet employees.

Thank you cards, t-shirts, posters, banners and receptions also provided forums to say thank you to staff members who perform on a daily basis to keep state government moving.

The entire recognition process is intended as an opportunity for supervisors to express appreciation for the hard work every day. There will be future activities scheduled.

TO THE ENTIRE STAFF, thank you for all you do and your caring about making a difference in Kentucky health care.



Haydon Services

William Scott Haydon, a CHS employee, died Friday from injuries suffered in an automobile accident.

Haydon, 53, of Waddy, was a computer technician who assisted local health departments.

His funeral will be Tuesday (Sept. 19) at 2 p.m. at LeCompte-Johnson-Taylor Funeral Home.

